

## **Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission**

### **Resolution Supporting Funding for the Environmental Education Master Plan**

**WHEREAS:** The Kentucky General Assembly, under KRS 157.900, has declared that maintaining a clean and healthy environment is a state priority and is the individual and collective responsibility of all citizens of Kentucky.

**WHEREAS:** The Kentucky General Assembly created the Kentucky Environmental Education Council to promote an informed and knowledgeable citizenry with the skills and attributes necessary to effectively and constructively solve existing environmental problems, prevent new ones and maintain a balanced and economically healthy environment for future generations.

**WHEREAS:** The Kentucky General Assembly directed the Environmental Education Council to develop a master plan for environmental education in the Commonwealth.

**WHEREAS:** During the past 2 years the Environmental Education Council involved hundreds of Kentuckians in the development of an environmental education master plan.

**WHEREAS:** These citizens, representing many viewpoints including education, business and industry, government and the environmental community, all agreed that improving environmental education in Kentucky would result not only in a better environment but also in better education for our children and a stronger economy in the long run.

**WHEREAS:** The Environmental Education Master Plan contains 20 recommendations that, if implemented, would:

- Improve the environmental literacy of teachers
- Provide standards for environmental education content, materials and instructional models
- Create a statewide system that would deliver quality environmental education in all areas of the Commonwealth
- Coordinate current environmental education programs and curriculum so that they are more efficient and effective
- Focus environmental education in Kentucky on local environments

**WHEREAS:** If Kentucky is to make progress in restoring our environment, the state must commit the resources necessary to promote an informed and environmentally literate citizenry.

**Now be it resolved by the Kentucky Environmental Quality Commission:**

1. That the Environmental Quality Commission endorses the recommendations of the Kentucky Environmental Education Master Plan and strongly encourages the Kentucky General Assembly to allocate \$1.6 million dollars to fully fund the master plan and the Kentucky Environmental Education Council.
2. That this resolution be forwarded to all members of the Kentucky General Assembly, Governor Paul E. Patton, Marlene Helm, Secretary of the Education, Arts and Humanities Cabinet, and James E. Bickford, Secretary of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet.

**Adopted By EQC on March 22, 2000**

*Aloma Dew, Chair, Owensboro Gary Revlett, Shelbyville*

*Betsy Rudd Bennett, Louisville C.V. Bennett, III, Harlan*

*Patty Wallace, Louisa Serena Williams, Louisville*

*Robert Riddle, Midway*